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Keep Building Bombers, LeMay Tells Congress

WASHINGTON, July 18 (UPI)—Gen Curtis LeMay, Air Force Chief of Staff, told Congress today that U. S. bomber production should not be halted now despite the growing reliability of missiles.

Gen. LeMay was flying in the face of President Kennedy's budget, which does not provide for new bomber funds in the current fiscal year. However, bomber deliveries will continue well into 1962 under past programs.

Gen. LeMay, who became Air Force head earlier this month, revealed his personal views under questioning by members of the Senate Defense Appropriations subcommittee. He was particularly loud in his praise of the B-70 bomber.

Defense Review

The Administration, meanwhile, was completing work on a revised defense plan of its own. The subcommittee chairman Sen. A. Willis Robertson, D., Va., said Mr. Kennedy has promised to submit a supplemental budget request this week to strengthen U. S. defenses in the face of increased Russian belligerence over Berlin.

White House press secretary Pierre Salinger said the defense review would be one topic of discussion at tomorrow's meeting of the National Security Council. Mr. Kennedy met late today with Gen. LeMay and the other military chiefs.

The review, which will include the degree of mobilization required to meet the Russian arms buildup, will form the basis for the supplemental appropriations request.

Strong Force

The subcommittee is working on a \$13 billion defense money bill passed by the House before Russia fired up the Berlin crisis. President Kennedy is expected to seek an additional \$1 to \$5 billion.

Sen. Robertson said one major policy question is whether the U. S. should have a force of only missiles or a mixed force of missiles and bombers.

Sen. Carl Hayden, D., Ariz., chairman of the full Senate Appropriations Committee, asked Gen. LeMay what he would



Associated Press wirephoto

TESTIFIES — Air Force chief Gen. LeMay who urged speeding up bomber program.



AT SENATE INQUIRY—Allen Dulles (right), director of the C. I. A., listens to Sen. John Stennis, head of Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Preparedness, before closed door session.

posals in the Kennedy budget.

As Gen. LeMay testified, another Senate subcommittee got a report from intelligence experts on the recent Moscow air show which featured a number of new Russian war planes.

Sen. John C. Stennis, D., Miss., chairman of the Senate Preparedness subcommittee, said, after the closed-door intelligence briefing by Allen W. Dulles, Central Intelligence Agency director, that "the situation is grim, the facts are grave."